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XVI.  
SERBIAN.  
By W. R. MORFILL, M.A.

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# SIMPLIFIED GRAMMAR

OF THE

# SERBIAN LANGUAGE

BY

*William Richard*  
W. R. MORFILL, M. A.



LONDON:

TRÜBNER & Co., LUDGATE HILL

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## P R E F A C E.

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The object of the Serbian grammar now laid before the public is to give a short account of the chief characteristics of the language. It is believed that these will be found adequately stated, although with great brevity. I have derived some assistance from the grammar of A. PARČIĆ, of which a French translation has appeared<sup>(1)</sup> but in the classification of the nouns and verbs have followed MIKLOSICH (*Vergleichende Grammatik*) and ĐANIČIĆ (*Облици Српскога Језика*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, Belgrade 1863). The grammatical forms in this little work are treated throughout in such a way as to bring the language in harmony with those of the Old Slavonic, its eldest surviving sister. It is only upon such principles that they can be properly explained.

In treating a language where so many dialects struggle for supremacy, it has been impossible to avoid a certain amount of inconsistency in orthography and grammatical forms, but I have taken pains that all the most prominent variations should be noted. Although the basis of the

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(1) *Grammaire de la langue Serbo-Croate* par A. PARČIĆ. Paris 1877. The translation is by M. J. B. FEUVRIER who dates his preface from Cetinje, the capital of Tsrnagora (Montenegro). For proper names I use the Croatian orthography but retain the more familiar form of that of MIKLOSICH.

little work has been the Serbian language in the stricter sense of the term, it has not been found practicable to exclude Croatisms, considering the great importance of Agram as a literary centre and the merit of the authors who have used that dialect. Owing to the Old Slavonic as modified by Serbisms, having been the book-language till nearly the close of the first thirty years of this century the *sermo vulgaris* has hardly had time to fully develop itself. The orthography has fluctuated greatly and the modifications of the Cyrillic alphabet introduced by VUK only came into general use in Serbia in 1868.

I have treated the accents but briefly. My own experience, corroborated by the opinion of Serbs themselves has told me that it is impossible to represent by any words these striking combinations of stress and tone. They can only be acquired orally.<sup>(1)</sup> The Serbs employ them but little either in writing or printing.

The following details of the area over which the Serbo-Croatian language is spoken will be found useful.

According to the latest statistics it is the vernacular of about seven millions, who are distributed over the following territories:

- 1) The kingdom of Serbia,
- 2) The part of Old Serbia still under Turkish rule,
- 3) Bosnia and Herzegovina,
- 4) Istria, the Dalmatian littoral and the islands,
- 5) The Principality of Montenegro,

---

(1) Bošković in his grammar (Theoretisch-Praktisches Lehrbuch zur Erlernung der serbischen Sprache. Pest, 1864), has given a musical notation to help the student.

6) The Austrian Provinces: Croatia, Slavonia, Syrmia and the southern part of Carniola,

7) The Serbs in the Banat and South-Hungary,

8) A few who are settled in the South of Russia.

Those of this people who adhere to the Greek church use the Cyrillic alphabet; those who follow the Roman catholic rite the Latin. In some parts of Dalmatia there is used in the Church-books the strange alphabet called Glagolitic, about the origin and age of which so much has been written, but up to the present time with little result. One point only seems to have been proved, namely that it is older than Cyrillic. Closely connected with the Serbian language is the Slovenish spoken by about a million and a half of people, in Carinthia and parts of Styria and Carniola. About forty years ago an attempt was made by Dr. LJUDEVIT GÁJ of Agram to form a literary language by fusing Slovenish and Serbo-Croatian, but his effects were not successful. The *jus et norma loquendi* do not depend upon scholars or journalists and the artificial tongue which he essayed to create would have been unintelligible to the humbler classes. Nay, the establishment of such a language would only have defeated the main object of this warm-hearted and patriotic enthusiast. It would have paved the way for the complete Germanisation of the country. Slovenish, a most interesting language, has accordingly gone on its own path. An excellent grammar by ŠUMAN, a pupil of MIKLOSICH has recently been published at the expense of the *Matica Slovenska* of Laibach.<sup>(1)</sup> Although Serbo-Croatian literat-

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(1) Slovenska Slovnica po Miklošičevi primerjalni. V Ljubljani 1832.

ure (as opposed to old Slavonic texts in Serbian recensions) is of comparatively modern origin, yet the reader will find much to reward him in the writings of STANKO VRAZ, RADIČEVIĆ, PRERADOVIĆ and BAN, to say nothing of the fine collections of popular ballads many of which are probably of great antiquity. The Serbian Review ГЛАСНИК (Messenger), published periodically at Belgrade contains a large number of articles on the literature and history of the country, by such men as GJURO DANIČIĆ, STOJAN NOVAKOVIĆ, ČEDOMIL MIJATOVIĆ<sup>(1)</sup> and others. At the time of his premature death DANIČIĆ was engaged in the preparation of a large Serbo-Croatian dictionary which is now being continued by his pupils. It will probably take rank with the Polish work of LINDE and the Chekh of JUNGSMANN.—In conclusion I may add that the present grammar is the first attempt to familiarise Englishmen with the principles of the Serbian language, and I must return my hearty thanks to Mr. ALEXANDER Z. JOVIČIĆ (Secretary of the Serbian legation in London), for the kindness and care with which he has looked over the proofs and the interest he has taken in the work throughout.

OXFORD

1887.

W. R. MORFILL.

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(<sup>1</sup>) To his Excellency ČEDOMIL MIJATOVIĆ formerly Serbian Minister to the court of St. James and now Serbian Minister of Finance I am under great obligations for allowing me to submit to his criticism the sheets of this work while passing through the press, amidst his many avocations. He must not however be held responsible for their contents.

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# PART I:—PHONOLOGY. .

The Serbian language will be treated in this Grammar as more or less identical with the Croatian. According as this language is spoken by Serbs or Croats it employs the Cyrillic or Latin Alphabet.—For the former the system adopted by VUK STEPHANOVICH KARAJICH is now generally used, and for the latter the modified forms introduced by LJUDEVIT GAJ.

CYRILLIAN PRINTED AND CURSIVE		LATIN		PRONUNCIATION
A a	<i>A A a</i>	A a	A a	a Italian
Б б	<i>Б Б б</i>	B b	B b	b
В в	<i>В В в</i>	V v	V v	v
Г г	<i>Г Г г</i>	G g	G g	g always hard
Д д	<i>Д Д д</i>	D d	D d	d
Ђ ђ	<i>Ђ Ђ ђ</i>	Dj, Gj, dj, gj	Dj, Gj, dj, gj	dy
Е е	<i>Е Е е</i>	E e	E e	e Italian
Ж ж	<i>Ж ж ж</i>	Ž ž	Ž ž	j French jour
З з	<i>З з з</i>	Z z	Z z	z
И и	<i>И и и</i>	I i	I i	i

CYRILLIAN PRINTED AND CURSIVE		LATIN		PRONUNCIATION
J j	<i>Ј ј</i>	J j	<i>J j</i>	y
K k	<i>К к</i>	K k	<i>K k</i>	k
L l	<i>Л л</i>	L l	<i>L l</i>	l
Љ љ	<i>Љ љ</i>	Lj lj	<i>Lj lj</i>	lj Italian gl
M m	<i>М м</i>	M m	<i>M m</i>	m
N n	<i>Н н</i>	N n	<i>N n</i>	n
Њ њ	<i>Њ њ</i>	Nj nj	<i>Nj nj</i>	gn French
O o	<i>О о</i>	O o	<i>O o</i>	o
П п	<i>П п</i>	P p	<i>P p</i>	p
P p	<i>Р р</i>	R r	<i>R r</i>	r
C c	<i>С с</i>	S s	<i>S s</i>	s
T t	<i>Т т</i>	T t	<i>T t</i>	t
Ћ ћ	<i>Ћ ћ</i>	Ć ć	<i>Ć ć</i>	between ch and ts
У у	<i>У у</i>	U u	<i>U u</i>	ou French
Ф ф	<i>Ф ф</i>	F f	<i>F f</i>	f
X x	<i>Х х</i>	H h	<i>H h</i>	German ch as <i>machen</i>
Ц ц	<i>Ц ц</i>	C c	<i>C c</i>	ts
Ч ч	<i>Ч ч</i>	Č č	<i>Č č</i>	ch as in <i>church</i>
Џ џ	<i>Џ џ</i>	Dž dž	<i>Dž dž</i>	dzh = Engl. j
Ш ш	<i>Ш ш</i>	Š š	<i>Š š</i>	sh

These are the alphabets now in ordinary use as previously stated. I have not thought it necessary to give any others, which would probably only bewilder the reader. It is to be regretted that religious reasons still cause a separation in the alphabets employed by the Serbs and Croats; the former belonging to the Greek church use the Cyrillic, the latter as Roman Catholics the Latin. It is almost ludicrous to see works partly printed in one alphabet and partly in the other. Thus in the Magazine 'Slovinac' which appeared at Ragusa in 1878 and subsequent years we have frequently one column in Cyrillic and one in Latin letters. The letter  $\uparrow$  is considered by MIKLOSICH as superfluous (Comp. Gram. I. 412). It is however of use in words derived from Turkish, many of which are still to be found in the Serbian language. He speaks of it as derived from the Roumanian, but according to SHAFARIK (Serbische Lesekörner p. 63), it had previously been used in Serbian in the seventeenth century.

The VOWELS must be pronounced as in Italian. Of the consonants  $r$  is always hard.  $\mathfrak{h}$  is like the sound *dy* in the colloquial *how d'ye do*, or the French *di* in *dieu*;  $\mathfrak{x}$  is the French *j* in *jour*;  $\mathfrak{b}$  is like the Italian *gl* in *figlio*;  $\mathfrak{h}$  is like *gn* in *magnifique* (French);  $\mathfrak{h}$  is a very difficult sound and can only be learnt from a native. It is something between the sound of *ch* in *church* and *ts*.  $y$  is the French *ou* or English *oo*;  $x$  is the German guttural as in *acht*, *machen*;  $\mathfrak{c}$  is *ch* as in *church*;  $\uparrow$  corresponds to the English *j* and only occurs in foreign words, especially those which Serbian has borrowed from Turkish; the letter  $p$  is frequently used as a vowel, as  $\text{npct}$ , a *finger*, pronounced *purst*;

this is written in Croatian *pèrst*.—The sound is admirably described by WHITNEY, as quoted in MIKLOSICH, *Vergleichende Grammatik*. Vol. II p. XIV: ‘If I may judge from experiments made in my own mouth, the bringing of the *r* Sanskrit far enough forward in the mouth to be trilled would render very natural, and almost unavoidable the slipping in before and after it, of a fragment of the neutral vowel, our *u* in *but* . . . . Of this character it can hardly be doubted, would be what elements the sound contained which were not *r*.’

**THE ACCENT.** This can in reality only be learnt from a native and all that can be done here is to give a few general rules. The accents are five in number; some however omit the fifth.

The first mark (``) expresses a short sharp accent, as *кòло*, *a dance*.—The second mark (˘) stands on a short accented syllable;—*e. g.* *вòда*, *the water*; *врàна*, *the cow*; *вỳна*, *the wool*; *зèмља*, *the earth*.—The third mark (˙) stands on syllables where the accent is prolonged;—*e. g.* *грàна*, *the bough*; *òвца*, *the sheep*; *сèка*, *the sister*.—The fourth mark (ˆ) is placed over syllables, where they are to be pronounced at length, and very full;—*e. g.* *глад*, *hunger*; *тèло*, *the body*; *сỳнце*, *the sun*.—The fifth mark (^) stands upon syllables, where the accent is much more protracted than in the two preceding instances, as *свијѣ* *nàрода*, *of all peoples*.<sup>(1)</sup> The short (˘) and long (˙) accents never come on the last syllable of a word nor

---

(1) The Serbian accent changes from one syllable to another in the same word like the Russian and is illustrated by the work on the latter by Prof. JAMES GROTE; the subject has also been specially treated by LESKIEN and NEMANIĆ.

on any monosyllable. Monosyllables only take the following accents: (``) or (˘) as pàд, *work*; свѣт, *the world*.

The CONSONANTS may be divided as follow:

Labials: б, в, м, п, ф;

Dentals: д, т;

Liquids: л, н, р;

Gutturals: г, к, х;

Sibilants: з, ц, с.

Palatals: љ, ж, ч, ш; semivowel j.

м may also be considered as a labial nasal and н as a dental nasal. This must be borne in mind, if we wish to understand some of the phonetic changes.

The following are the chief modifications which sounds undergo<sup>(1)</sup>:

1. Vowels which contract in the middle of a word и-и into и: при-идем = придем, *I come*;

о-о into о: гро-отом = гротом, *with a burst of laughter*.

When for the sake of greater clearness the syllables ought to be kept distinct a disjunctive consonant is added either j, в, д or н, as чу-ем becomes чуѣм, *I hear*; пи-ем, пиѣм, *I drink*; да-ати, давати, *to give*; обу-ен, обуѣн, *with shoes on*; знаем, знаѣм, *I know*; у-иѣи, уиѣи, *to enter*.

Words that are compounded however do not undergo any contraction, as неук, *ignorant*; черноок, *black-eyed*.

The double vowel *je*, in old times written ѣ<sup>(2)</sup>, in contact with another vowel or with j is sometimes changed into и in the middle and at the end of a word,

(1) For some of these remarks I am indebted to Parčic (p. 8).

(2) By those now very few, who do not employ the orthography of Вук. Thus it is found in the Цвѣтникъ Србске Словесности of SUBBOTIC (Vienna 1853).

thus: сјео, сию, *seated*; дјео, дио, *placed*; see remarks on dialects, page 8.

The law of assimilation causes certain vowels to accompany certain consonants; thus о after љ becomes е, as краљем.

2. The conjunction of vowels at the end of a word is avoided a) by means of a contraction;—e. g. росна for роспоја, *mistress*;—b) by the insertion of the consonant ј, as дају, *they give*; пију, *they drink*.

In the ending of nouns, adjectives and participles in а-о, е-о, и-о, у-о, the hiatus is preserved, as it really represents a suppressed л, as ишао, *he went*; пенео, *ashes*; чинио, *he did*; трпо, *corrupted*;—to which may also be added орао, *eagle*.

3. Juxtaposition of consonants in the middle of a word.—

a) с, з before soft consonants become soft or palatal: e. g. пасче, пашче, *dog*; ту-с-тји, туштји, *fatter*; гроздје, грождје, *grapes*; пазња, пажња, *attention*.

b) ч before т and с becomes ш;—e. g. что, што, *what*; чтовати, штовати, *to venerate*; суначце, сунашце, *the sun*.

c) The consonants д, т, з before т, л are changed into с;—e. g. кла-д-ти, класти, *to place*; пле-т-ти, плести, *to knit*; гудле, гусле, *a musical instrument*; ма-з-ло, масло, *butter*.

d) If a guttural precedes ти, the termination of the infinitive, it becomes њ;—ректи, рењи, *to speak*; стригти, стрињи, *to shear*.

Certain consonants are omitted.

a) The dentals д, т and the labials б, п, в before л, н;—e. g. каннути, канути, *to trickle*; гибнути, гинути, *to perish*.

b) The consonant *c* in the suffixes *ск, ств* after the palatals;—*e. g.* *јунач-с-ки, јуначки, heroic*; *сиромаш-с-ство, сиромаштво, poverty*.

c) The consonant *в* in words compounded with *об*; *e. g.* *об-влак = облак, cloud*; *об-власт = област, power*.

d) The consonant *ј* after the palatals and *р*;—*e. g.* *дуж-ј-и, дужи, longer*.

In many instances the letter *а* is inserted, as *стак-лице*, becomes *стакalice*, *little glass*, a diminutive of *стакло*; sometimes it is *у*, as *предусрести*, *to meet*.

Between the labials and the dental *т* the letter *с* is added to the infinitive of verbs, as *дуб-с-ти, to dig*, *црп-с-ти, to take*; *жив-с-ти, to live*.

#### 4. Consonants in juxta-position with vowels:

a) Gutturals and sibilants, when the suffix is added, are changed into the corresponding palatals before the suffixes *ај, ан, ар, бина, ешина, ев, ињ, ица, њи, ски, ство, урина*;—*e. g.* *пук, people, пучки, popular*; *клобук, hat, клобучар, hatter*; *корак, step, корачај*; *џак, student, џачињ*; *јунак, hero, јуначина, great hero*; *књига, book, књижурина, great book*; *отац, father, очев, paternal*; *данас, to-day, данашњи, belonging to to-day*.

b) The gutturals and sibilants before *е* in the inflexions of verbs and masculine nouns become palatals; *e. g.* *дихати, to breathe, дишем, I breathe*; *дизати, to raise, дижем, I raise*; *кнез, prince, вос. кнеже*; *Бог, god, вос. Боже*.

c) Gutturals in the inflexions of nouns and verbs become sibilants before *и*;—*e. g.* *пук, people, пуци (plural)*; *рука, hand, руци (dative)*; *дух, breath, дуси (plural)*; *туџи (тук-ти), to beat; туци (imp.)*.

The same law holds good in the change of verbs from one aspect to another;—*e. g.* НИЊИ (НИК-ТИ), НИЦАТИ, *to bud*; ДИГНУТИ, ДИЗАТИ, *to rise*.

5. SOFTENING OF CONSONANTS. Dentals become soft by taking a *j*, thus *дj* becomes *ђ* and *тj* *ѣ*. So also *сj* becomes *ш*, *зj*, *ж* and *цj* *ч*, and *пj* and *лj* become *њ* and *љ*. The importance of these rules must be borne in mind when we are forming the irregular comparatives mentioned on page 22.

The Serbian is a much softer language than any of its Slavonic sisters. It has a tendency to elide harsh consonants, sometimes for example at the beginning, as *тињ*, *bird*, which compare with Russian *птичка*, *леб* with *хлѣбъ*, *bread*, so also *ранити* with *хранити* and *рт* with *хрт*. The liquid *л* is vocalised, as *пун*, *full*, Russian *полній*; *пук*, *regiment*, Russian *полкъ*; *жут*, *yellow*, Russian *жёлтый*. The tendency to avoid two consonants together has already been noticed, thus *леопарад*, *leopard*, and others.

It would be impossible in a little work like the present to give anything like an adequate account of the dialects of the Serbian language. As its literature has been so little developed, the student must not be surprised at finding different systems of orthography in vogue. Besides the difference in the use of the interrogative pronoun, which will be mentioned in a subsequent page, the various equivalents used of the Old Slavonic *ѣ* (*je*) have formed a principle of division into the three following dialects. We will take as tests the words *мљѣко*, *milk*, and *вѣра*, *faith*, and for greater clearness will make use of the Latin alphabet:

a) Among the Slavonians (in the restricted sense of the inhabitants of that Austrian province), the Dalmatians and the inhabitants of the Adriatic sea-board, *mliko, vira*; this is the Western dialect.

b) In Syrmia, the Banat, the Batchka and Serbia about the Save and Drave, *mleko, vera*;—this is the dialect in which the popular poet RADIČEVIĆ wrote; the Eastern dialect

c) In Bosnia, Herzegovina, Montenegro (Tsrnagora) and in the Southern parts of the kingdom of Serbia in long syllables it is *ije* and in short *je*;—e.g. *mlijeko, vjera*; the Southern dialect.

The Croatian dialect has in many points especially bearing upon phonology become differentiated from the Serb and MIKLOSICH has even gone so far, but it seems to us erroneously, as to consider them different languages! <sup>(1)</sup>

The question formed the subject of a valuable article by DANIČIĆ:—Разлике између језика србскога и хрватскога, in the ninth volume of the Гласник, Belgrade, 1857. On the whole, it may be said with truth that these differences between the Serbian and Croatian dialects lie more in the phonetics than in grammatical forms. One of the most noteworthy points of variation in the latter respect is that the Serbs and Dalmatians of the coast use the dual for the plural in the dative, instrumental and locative plural. It will be observed

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(1) Vergleichende Grammatik, 1<sup>st</sup> Vol. p. 392.—But in the first edition of this work he said:—‘Die geringen Verschiedenheiten des chorvatischen und serbischen haben mich bestimmt, sie unter einem zu behandeln’.—But we have no space to discuss the question further.

that Serbian and Croatian are treated as the same languages in the two important works of DANIČIĆ:—Облици српскога или хрватскога језика, Agram 1874, and Историја облика српскога или хрватскога језика до свршетка XVII вијека, Belgrade 1876. More Turkish words appear to have crept into Serbian as would naturally result from the geographical position of the country, but these will probably, as the Serbs advance in civilization, be ejected. Before leaving this subject I may add that an excellent treatise on the Ragusan dialect has been published by P. BUDMANI, author of a good Serbo-Croatian Grammar.

#### PART II:—THE DOCTRINE OF FORMS.

The parts of speech are the same in Serbian as in other languages, with the exception of the article.<sup>(1)</sup>

The noun has three numbers: the singular, the dual (preserved in a few forms) and the plural, and three genders: masculine, feminine and neuter. There are seven cases: the nominative, genitive, dative, accusative, vocative, locative and instrumental. The only one of these which seems to demand any explanation is the locative, which in some Slavonic languages is called the *prepositional* because it must always be accompanied by a preposition. I have placed the instrumental before the locative in this grammar, for the reasons given at the beginning of my preface.

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<sup>(1)</sup> It is included in the definite form of the adjective. See page 19.

## THE GENDER OF SUBSTANTIVES.

The gender of substantives is partly ascertained by their signification and partly by their termination.—

a. *The signification.*

The names of persons and animals and generally all living beings, whatever be the termination of the substantive are:

1. Masculine, if they denote beings of the male sex, as Бранко, *a proper name*; брат, *brother*; војно, *husband*.

Some contemptuous appellations, however, even when applied to men are of the feminine gender,<sup>(1)</sup> as пијаница, *a great drunkard*, скиталица, *a vagabond*. Perhaps similarity of termination may have something to do with this, the feminine ending, as we shall see directly, being frequently in a.

2. Feminine; a) all substantives relating to beings of the female sex, as мати, *mother*; сестра, *sister*.— b) Collective names of human beings and animals, as браћа, *the brothers*; чељад, *the family*.

b. *The termination.*

Here we can only lay down a few general rules for more minute details the reader must be referred to the dictionaries.

1. Most of the nouns which end in a consonant, or the euphonic o (put for л), are masculine, as роб, *slave*,

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(1) This is a characteristic of the Slavonic languages generally, as MIKLOSICH has shewn.

some however which end in *ст* are feminine, as well as those in *-ав* and *-онъ*, as *костъ*, *a bone*; *страстъ*, *passion*; *љубавъ*, *love*; *нонъ*, *night*, &c.—Corresponding nouns in Russian end in *ь*.

2. Most of the nouns which end in *а* are feminine. *Доба*, *period*, is neuter, and some nouns are both masculine and feminine, as *патъ*, *war*; *вечеръ*, *evening*, &c.

3. The names of all inanimate things ending in *е* or *о* are neuter, provided the *о* be not put euphonically for *л* as previously explained, as *име*, *name*; *тане*, *ball*; *поље*, *field*; *вино*, *wine*.

#### DECLENSION.

I shall divide the Serbian nouns into six declensions according to the plan laid down by MIKLOSICH in his *Comparative Grammar*, following the analogy of the other Slavonic languages.<sup>(1)</sup>

#### I. Ъ (*a*)-STEMS.

The termination is *ъ* in the Old Slavonic and Russian. This letter however is no longer used according to the modern Serbian spelling.

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(<sup>1</sup>) A somewhat different arrangement is adopted by DANIČIĆ in his *Облици Српскога Језика* (*Forms of the Serbian Language*). Belgrade 1883; but I do not see any reason for altering the system of MIKLOSICH.

роб, *a slave.*

<i>Singular.</i>		<i>Plural.</i>
Nom.	роб	робн
Voc.	робе	робн
Acc.	роба	робе
Gen.	роба	роба, роб
Dat.	робу	робима <sup>(1)</sup> , робом
Instr.	робом	робима, робн
Loc.	робу	робима, робих

In all monosyllabic words and in many two syllabled the syllable ов in the case of stems ending in a hard consonant, and ев in the case of those ending in a soft is added between the stem and the suffix in all cases of the plural. Thus, робови, робова, робовима, &c. In many nouns where а occurs before the final consonant, it is omitted in all cases except the gen. plural as отац, отца, and substantives, which end in с, г, х and з change these consonants in the vocative into the corresponding palatals, as Бог, *God*, Боже.

коњ, *a horse.*

<i>Singular.</i>		<i>Plural.</i>
Nom.	коњ	коњи
Voc.	коњу	коњи
Acc.	коња	коње
Gen.	коња	коња, коњ
Dat.	коњу	коњима, коњем
Instr.	коњем	коњима, коњи
Loc.	коњу	коњима, коњих

In this declension if the noun implies an animate thing the genitive and accusative singular will be identical; if inanimate the noun and accusative singular.

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(1) Those in има and ама were originally dual forms.

## II. O-STEMS.

село, *a village.*

<i>Singular.</i>	<i>Plural.</i>
Nom. село	села
Acc. село	села
Gen. села	села, сел
Dat. селу	селима, селом
Instr. селом	селима, сели
Loc. селу	селима, селих

поље, *a field.* <sup>(1)</sup>

<i>Singular.</i>	<i>Plural.</i>
Nom. поље	поља
Acc. поље	поља
Gen. поља	поља, пољ
Dat. пољу	пољима, пољем
Instr. пољем	пољима, пољн
Loc. пољу	пољима, пољнх

## III. a-STEMS.

риба, *a fish.*

<i>Singular.</i>	<i>Plural.</i>
Nom. риба	рибе
Voc. рибо	рибе
Acc. рибу	рибе
Gen. рибе	риба, риб
Dat. риби	рибама, рибама
Instr. рибом	рибама, рибама
Loc. риби	рибама, рибих

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(1) The insertion of поље among the o-stems is explained by the stem being пољо. The final-o preceded by a consonant, which has been modified by j, becomes e.

воѡа, *will*.

	<i>Singular.</i>	<i>Plural.</i>
Nom.	воѡа	воѡе
Voc.	воѡо	воѡе
Acc.	воѡу	воѡе
Gen.	воѡе	воѡа, воѡ
Dat.	воѡи	воѡама, воѡам
Instr.	воѡом	воѡамаѡ, воѡамн
Loc.	воѡи	воѡама, воѡах

IV. ѡ (*u*)-STEMS.

The old ѡ (*u*)-stems follow the declension of the ѡ (*a*)-stems. The Croatian still employs the sing. voc. *sinu*, Old Slav. *сыну*. We have traces of the declension of the ѡ (*u*)-stems in the dat. and voc. sing. and in the syllable *ов* of the ѡ (*a*)-stems.

## V. ѣ-STEMS.

1. *masculine.*

Of the Old Slavonic masculine declension in ѣ (*i*) there are but scanty remains.

2. *feminine.*кост, *a bone.*

	<i>Singular.</i>	<i>Plural.</i>
Nom.	кост	кости
Voc.	кости	кости
Acc.	кост	кости
Gen.	кости	кости, ју <sup>(1)</sup>
Dat.	кости	костима, стоим
Instr.	кошѣу	костима, стоимн
Loc.	кости	костима, стоимх

(<sup>1</sup>) The dual form *костију* is occasionally found.

## VI. CONSONANTAL STEMS.

a) *b*-stems.

Of these there are a few traces.

b) *n*-stems.1. *masculine*.

Among these дан, *day*, may be mentioned, which is very irregular. The chief forms are as follow:

	<i>Singular.</i>	<i>Plural.</i>
Nom.	дан	дани, дни
Voc.	дане	дани
Acc.	дан	дане, дни
Gen.	дана, дне, дни	дана, *днева
Dat.	дану, дне	данима
Instr.	даном, дању	данима
Loc.	дану, дне	данима

2. *neuter*.

име, *a name*.

	<i>Singular.</i>	<i>Plural.</i>
Nom.	име	имена
Acc.	име	имена
Gen.	имена	имена, имен
Dat.	имену	именима, имен
Instr.	именом	именима, имени
Loc.	имену	именима, имених

c) *c*-stems.

тијело, *the body*.

	<i>Singular.</i>	<i>Plural.</i>
Nom.	тијело	тјелеса
Acc.	тијело	тјелеса
Gen.	тијела	тјелеса, тилес
Dat.	тијелу	тјелесима, тилесом
Instr.	тијелом	тјелесима, тилеси
Loc.	тијелу	тјелесима, тилесих

In this way are also declined небо, *heaven*, and чудо, *a wonder*; око, *an eye*, and ухо, *an ear*, use as plural the old dual:—очи, уши, очију, ушију, очима, ушима.

## d) T-stems.

тане, *a ball (of a musket)*.

<i>Singular.</i>	<i>Plural.</i>
Nom. тaне	танета
Acc. тaне	танета
Gen. танета	танета, танет
Dat. танету	танетима, танетом
Instr. танетом	танетима, танети
Loc. танету	танетима, танетих

Irregular nouns belonging to this declension are псето, *dog*, gen. псета and псетета and дрво *a tree* which makes plur. дрвета, *clubs*, and дрва, *logs of wood*.

## e) p-stems.

мати, *a mother*.

<i>Singular.</i>	<i>Plural.</i>
Nom. мати	матере
Acc. матер	матере
Gen. матере	матера, матер
Dat. матери	матерама, матерам
Instr. матером	матерама, матерамъ
Loc. матери	матерама, матерех

кћи, *a daughter*, has in the singular accusative кнер, but in other respects follows the paradigm кост. As this noun is in such common use it is added.

<i>Singular.</i>		<i>Plural.</i>
Nom.	кѣи (sometimes but incorrectly кѣер)	кѣери
Acc.	кѣер	кѣери
Gen.	кѣери	кѣери
Dat.	кѣери	кѣерима, кѣерим
Instr.	кѣери	кѣерима, кѣерми
Loc.	кѣери	кѣерих

As previously observed, according to the rule of Slavonic languages in the case of animate things the genitive and accusative are the same, in the singular number and masculine gender; in the case of inanimate things the nominative and accusative.

It would occupy too much space in this grammar to give a list of nouns defective in number which can easily be learned from the dictionary; thus *e. g.* *ножице*, *scissors*, and *топице*, *hot baths*, are only used in the plural. *Доба*, *a period*, is of the neuter gender and indeclinable.

A few more irregular nouns may be specified, thus *брат* pl. *браћа*, which becomes a collective feminine noun and is declined like *риба*; *човјек*, *man*, has for pl. *људи* (cf. Russian). Many names of inanimate things become collective neuters in the plural, thus *цвет*, *a flower*; *цветење*, *a bunch of flowers*; *лист*, *a leaf*; *лишће*, *a bunch of leaves*. This is a striking peculiarity of the language and should be noted. *Груди* and *прси*, *breast*, have a dual form, one of the remains of the old language and the same applies to *плечи*, *shoulders*; thus gen. *грудију*, *прсију*, *плечију*, dat. *рудима*, *прсима*, *плелима*.

Of the various terminations of nouns the following are worthy of specification:

a) The male agent is expressed by the termination *-ац*, as *ловац*, *hunter*; *писац*, *writer*; sometimes *-ач*, as

ковач, *blacksmith*; feminine -ица, as ковачица; -ар, as књиџар, *bookseller*, and -ик, as милосник, *a lover*.

b) -анин to express the place or country from which one comes, as Бечанин, *a native of Vienna*. This is sometimes expressed by the termination -лија, as Цариградлија, *a native of Constantinople*.

c) -ство the function, as учитељство, *the function of being teacher*.

d) -ска, denoting country, as Инглеска, *England*.

e) -ање and ење to express an action or its effects, as читање, *the act of reading*, or -ба, as берба, *the gathering of grapes*.

f) -иште, place, as позориште, *theatre*.

g) Diminutives, -ић, as ножић, *a little knife*; -ца, as нојца, *little night*; -ка, as сека, *little sister*.<sup>(1)</sup>

h) -ад, denotes collectives, as прасад, *a herd of swine*; штенад, *a litter of puppies*.

## ADJECTIVES.

In Serb the adjective has two forms, the indefinite and the definite;—e. g. indef. млад човјек, *a young man*; млади човјек, *the young man*. In reality as has been shewn by MIKLOSICH and other scholars the -и of the termination is the definite article, and this is why (in appearance) an article is wanting in the Slavonic languages.

But all adjectives do not possess both indefinite and definite forms:—1) possessive adjectives in ов, ев and ни can only have the indefinite form. 2) All the other possessive adjectives, the ordinal numbers as well as

<sup>(1)</sup> Also села, селе, thus а да јоште ти ми видиш, селе, *and that thou mayst still see me, sister*—M. Ban.

the following, десни, *on the right hand*; левни, *on the left hand*; цигли, *unique*; обѣи, *general*; остали, *remaining*; мали, *little*; вели, *great*; дивѣи, *savage*, and some others have only the definite form.

## INDEFINITE ADJECTIVE.

Млад, *young*.

*Singular.*

	Masculine.	Feminine.	Neuter.
Nom.	млад	млада	млаго
Acc.	{ млада (animate) млад (inanimate)	младу	млаго
Gen.		младе	млада
Dat.	младу	млагој	младу
Instr.	младим	млагом	младим
Loc.	младу	млагој	младу

*Plural.*

	Masculine.	Feminine.	Neuter.
Nom.	млади	младе	млада
Acc.	младе	младе	млада
Gen.		младих	
Dat.	младима	младим	} for all genders
Instr.	младима	младими	
Loc.	младима	младих	

## DEFINITE ADJECTIVE.

*Singular.*

	Masculine.	Feminine.	Neuter.
Nom.	млади	млада	млаго
Acc.	{ младога (animate) млади (inanimate)	младу	млаго
Gen.		младе	млагога
Dat.	младому	млагој	младому
Instr.	младим	млагом	младим
Loc.	млагом	млагој	млагом

*Plural.*

	Masculine.	Feminine.	Neuter.
Nom.	млади	младе	млада
Acc.	младе	младе	млада
Gen.		младих	
Dat.	младима	младим	} for all genders
Instr.	младима	младими	
Loc.	младима	младих	

It will be observed that the accusative masculine, as in substantives, has two forms one for animate, the other for inanimate things.

In the genitive and dative singulars of the masculine and neuter the final vowel is sometimes suppressed, thus *ог, ом, ем*.

The example *млад* illustrates the declension of an adjective, which terminates in a hard consonant; in the case of one ending in a soft consonant;—*e. g.* *врун*, *warm*, the only differences in the indefinite form are that the neuter nom. and acc. ends in *e*, as *вруне*, and in the definite the gen. masc. is *врунера* and the dative *врунему*, the locative *врунем*; the neuter nom. and acc. are *вруне*, gen. and dat. same as the masc. The plural of the adjective in the definite form is the same whether with a hard or soft termination.

The irregular adjective *вас* or *сав* is here added on account of its frequent use.

*Singular.*

	Masculine.	Feminine.	Neuter.
Nom.	вас, сав	сва	све
Acc.	вас, сав, свера (animate)	сву	све
Gen.	свера	све	свера
Dat.	свему	свој	свему
Instr.	свим	свом	свим
Loc.	свем	свој	свем

<i>Plural.</i>			
	Masculine.	Feminine.	Neuter.
Nom.	СВИ	СВЕ	СВА
Acc.	СВЕ	СВЕ	СВА
Gen.		СВИХ	
Dat.	СВИМА	СВИМ	} for all genders
Instr.	СВИМА	СВИМИ	
Loc.	СВИМА	СВИХ	

## DEGREES OF COMPARISON.

The comparative degree is ordinarily expressed by adding to the stems the terminations *ији* for the masculine, *ија* for the feminine and *ије* for the neuter, thus *богат*, *rich*, comp. *богатији*, *-ија*, *-ије*. Many adjectives, however, of two syllables which end in *ак*, *ек* and *ок* reject thus final syllable and add *ји*, *ја*, *је* to the stem;—*e. g.* *низак*, *low*, comp. *нижи*; *далек*, *afar off*, comparative *даљи*; *висок*, *high*, comp. *виши*; *широк*, *broad*, comp. *шири*.<sup>(1)</sup>

The following four comparatives which are in frequent use are altogether irregular.

*добар*, *good*; comp. *бољи*  
*зао*, *bad*; comp. *гори*  
*мали*, *little*; comp. *мањи*  
*велик*, *great*; comp. *већи*

The superlative is expressed by the addition of the syllable *нај-* to the comparative;—*e. g.* *највећи*, *the greatest*; *најбољи*, *the best*.

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<sup>(1)</sup> This may no doubt be explained by the fact that *к* and its accompanying vowels are suffixes. Cf. Old Slavonic *велин*, Russ. *великий*, *great*; *диво* Russ. and Chekh *divoký*. The final consonant of the stem is modified by the phonetic laws previously stated.

## THE NUMERALS.

1. *Cardinal.*

један, -дна, -дно	1	двадесет и један	21
два, две, два	2	тридесет	30
три	3	четрдесет	40
четири	4	педесет	50
пет	5	шездесет or шесет	60
шест	6	седамдесет	70
седам	7	осамдесет	80
осам	8	деведесет	90
девет	9	сто	100
десет	10	сто и један	101
једанаест	11	сто и двадесет	120
дванаест	12	двиста, две стотине	200
тринаест	13	триста, три стотине	300
четрнаест	14	четири стотине	400
двадесет	20	тисућа, хиљада	1000

2. *Ordinals.*

први	first
други	second
трећи (трети)	third
четврти	fourth
пети	fifth

And so on, each being declined as a definite adjective, but as these numerals may easily be found in a dictionary, I have not thought it necessary to lose space by recapitulating them here.

The first cardinal number један is declined like an indefinite adjective the three next are declined with feminine substantives, and agree with the noun, with masculine and neuter nouns they are treated as indeclinable and the noun to which they refer is in the genitive singular, but after пет, *five*, all the nouns are in the

genitive plural. This (apparent) genitive singular used only in the case of masculine and neuter nouns is considered by MIKLOSICH to be in reality a corrupt form of the dual, as we find in Russian.

The declension of два, три and четири is as follows:

N. A. две (¹)	три	четири
G. L. двију	трију	четирију
D. двјема	трима	четирима
I. двјема	тримн	четиримн

Dates are indicated in Serb in the following way. For the days of the month we use ordinals;—*e. g.* први, други, трећи (дан being understood) месеца, *the first, second, third of the month*; for the manner of expressing the year see page 64. When there are several numerals together, the last of them governs the noun, as двадесет и два човјека, *twenty-two men*. Оба and обадва, *both*, are declined like два only in the feminine. Collective numerals in Serbian end in -ица, as петерница, *a party of five*.

Serbian has an interesting parallel to the expression familiar to classical scholars τέταρτος αὐτός *i. e.* with three others, the idea is exactly expressed by самочетврт.

#### PRONOUNS.

The pronouns are divided into personal, demonstrative, interrogative, relative and indefinite. Under the personal are also included possessive pronouns.

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(¹) The masculine and neuter forms of два are no longer declined.

## PERSONAL PRONOUNS.

## First person.

<i>Singular.</i>	<i>Plural.</i>
Nom. ja	ми
Acc. мене, ме	нас
Gen. мене, ме	нас
Dat. мени, ми	нама нам
Instr. мною (меном)	нама нами
Loc. мени	нама нас

## Second person.

<i>Singular.</i>	<i>Plural.</i>
Nom. ти	ви
Acc. тебе, те	вас
Gen. тебе, те	вас
Dat. теби, ти	вама вам
Voc. ти	ви
Instr. тобом	вама вами
Loc. теби	вама вас

## Third person.

*Singular.*

	Masculine.	Feminine.	Neuter.
Nom.	он	она	оно
Acc.	нега, га	њу, ју	нега, га
Gen.	нега, га	ње, је	нега, га
Dat.	нему, му	њој, јој	нему, му
Instr.	ним	ном	ним
Loc.	нем	њој	нем

*Plural.*

	Masculine.	Feminine.	Neuter.
Nom.	они	оне	она
Acc.		ње, је, њих	} for all genders
Gen.		њих, јих, их	
Dat.	њима	њим, јим	
Instr.	њима	њими	
Loc.	њима	њих	

## THE REFLEXIVE PRONOUN.

This pronoun may be employed with all persons and both numbers.

Acc.	себе, се
Gen.	себе, се
Dat.	себи, си
Instr.	себи
Loc.	собом

The shorter forms are more often employed, and are like enclitics. In common with the other Slavonic languages the longer forms of the prepositions are used, when emphasis is required. After prepositions the accusative of the pronoun он is shortened into њ. Thus И у један пут нападе на њ мрак и тама—and *immediately there fell upon him mist and darkness*. Acts XIII, 11.

The possessive pronouns are inflected as follows:

мој, *mine*.

*Singular.*

	Masculine.	Feminine.	Neuter.
Nom.	мој	моја	моје
Acc.	мојега, мога	моју	моје
Gen.	мојега, мога	моје	мојега, мога
Dat.	мојему, мому	мојој	мојему, мому
Voc.	мој	моја	моје
Instr.	мојим	мојом	мојим
Loc.	мојем, мом	мојој	мојем, мом

*Plural.*

	Masculine.	Feminine.	Neuter.
Nom.	моји	моје	моја
Acc.	моје	моје	моја
Gen.		мојих	} for all genders
Dat.	мојима	мојим	
Voc.	моје	моје	моја
Instr.	мојима	мојими	} for all genders
Loc.	мојима	мојих (-них)	

наш, *our*.*Singular.*

	Masculine.	Feminine.	Neuter.
Nom.	наш	наша	наше
Acc.	нашега	нашу	наше
Gen.	нашега	наше	нашега
Dat.	нашему	нашој	нашему
Voc.	наш	наша	наше
Instr.	нашим	нашом	нашим
Loc.	нашем	нашој	нашем

*Plural.*

	Masculine.	Feminine.	Neuter.
Nom.	наши	наше	наша
Acc.	наше	наше	наша
Gen.		наших	} for all genders
Dat.	нашима	нашим	
Voc.	наше	наше	наша
Instr.	нашима	нашими	} for all genders
Loc.	нашима	наших	

твој, *thy*, and свој, the reflexive, are declined like мој. ваш, *your*, is declined like наш.

The other possessive pronouns follow the inflexions of the adjectives of the indefinite form, such are његов, *belonging to him* or *it*, њезин, *belonging to her*, њихов, *belonging to them*; моја, твоја and моје, твоје are sometimes, especially in poetry, contracted into ма, тва, ме, тве; свой is used indiscriminately for all persons and numbers, as Ја љубим своју домовину, *I love my country*.

## DEMONSTRATIVE PRONOUNS.

These are five in number:

1) овај, ова, ово, *this*.

2) тај, та, то, *this* or *that*.

3) онај, она, оно, *that*.

4) исти, иста, исто, *the same*.

5) сам, сама, само, *alone, only one*.

These pronouns are declined in the following manner:

*Singular.*

	Masculine.	Feminine.	Neuter.
Nom.	огај	ога	ово
Acc.	огај, овога (animate)	огу	ово
Gen.	овога	ове	овога
Dat.	овогу	огај	овогу
Instr.	овим	овом	овим
Loc.	овом	огај	овом

*Plural.*

	Masculine.	Feminine.	Neuter.
Nom.	они	ове	ога
Acc.	ове	ове	ога
Gen.		ових	
Dat.		овим	
Instr.		овим	
Loc.		ових	

тај, *this* or *that*, has something of the sense of the Latin *ille* and is not very easily translated in our language.

*Singular.*

	Masculine.	Feminine.	Neuter.
Nom.	тај	та	то
Acc.	тај, тог	ту	то
Gen.	тога	те	тога
Dat.	тому	тој	тому
Instr.	тијем, тим	том	тијем, тим
Loc.	том	тој	том

*Plural.*

	Masculine.	Feminine.	Neuter.
Nom.	ти	те	та
Acc.	те	те	та
Gen.		тијех, тих	} for all genders
Dat.	тијема	тим	
Instr.	тијема	тимн	
Loc.	тијема	тих	

I have added the duals throughout the pronouns as they are used by the Serbs in contradistinction to the Croats.

## INTERROGATIVE AND RELATIVE PRONOUNS.

	ТКО, <i>who.</i>	ШТО, <i>what.</i>
Nom.	ТКО, КО	ШТО, ШТА
Acc.	КОГА	ШТО (ШТА)
Gen.	КОГА	ЧЕСА, ЧЕГА (ШТА)
Dat.	КОМУ	ЧЕМУ
Instr.	КИМ, КИЕМ	ЧИМ (ЧИЕМ)
Loc.	КОМ	ЧЕМ

They have no plural.

We now have the interrogative and relative pronoun који, which is declined like an adjective.

*Singular.*

	Masculine.	Feminine.	Neuter.
Nom.	који (ки) <sup>(1)</sup>	која (ка)	које (ко)
Acc.	којега (кога)	које (ке)	којега (кога)
Gen.	којему (кому)	којој (кој)	којему (кому)
Dat.	који, којега (кога)	коју (ку)	које (ко)
Instr.	којим (ким)	којом (ком)	којим (ким)
Loc.	којем (ком)	којој (кој)	којем (ком)

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(1) Also sometimes written кој.

*Plural.*

	Masculine.	Feminine.	Neuter.
Nom.	који (ки)	које (ке)	која (ка)
Acc.	које (ке)	које (ке)	која (ка)
Gen.		којих (ких)	} for all genders
Dat.	којима	којим (ким)	
Instr.	којима	којими (кими)	
Loc.	којима	којих (ких)	

In the same way is declined *чиј*, *belonging to whom*. Converted with these pronouns are the adjectival forms *чигов*, *belonging to whom*; *колик*, *how great*; *каков* and *какав*, *of what sort*.

*шта* is often used for *што* in the colloquial language, and is indeed several times introduced by VUK in his translation of the New Testament. Instead of this the Dalmatians use *ча* (*ča*) and the Slovenes *kaj*; hence the distinction between the *štokavci*, the *čakavci* and the *kajkavci*, with which FEUVRIER well compares the difference between the *langue d'oïl* and the *langue d'oc*.

## INDEFINITE PRONOUNS.

Such are *њетко*, *a certain person*, *њешто* *a certain thing*, *сватко*, *each*, and others declined like *тко*, and their corresponding adjectives, *њekoји*, *штокоји*, *сваки* &c. which can easily be learned from the dictionaries, and must be omitted here for want of space.

## THE VERB.

The Serbian verbs may be divided as follow:

1) Active and passive, transitive, neuter and reflexive, considered with regard to their signification.

2) Simple and compound, primitive and derived with regard to their form.

3) Perfective and imperfective from the point of view of the duration of the action. It is with the last of these three divisions which we have more particularly to do, verbs of this class are said to be arranged according to their aspects, a feature peculiar to the Slavonic languages. In a short grammar like the present it will only be possible to give the leading principles of this classification. For more minute details the reader must use a good Serbian dictionary, and above all, must make himself familiar with the great comparative Grammar of MIKLOSICH.<sup>(1)</sup>

The perfective aspect denotes either that the action has been quite completed, or that it will definitely cease. This aspect has no present tense, but a present form with a future signification, just as we say in English: 'I go to-morrow morning'. Many of the verbs belonging to this aspect are compounded with prepositions, as *изпити*, *to drink up*.

The perfective verbs are again subdivided either: a) as they denote completion without regard to the duration of the action;—e. g. *купити*, *to buy*, in one or more acts (unconditional perfective verbs) or b) with reference to the duration of the action (conditional perfective verbs). In the last circumstance the action may be either a) one the beginning and end of which are simultaneous, as *стријељати*, *to shoot*, the action being done rapidly, once for all as it were: these verbs are called by MIKLOSICH momentaneous, and correspond to the perfect aspect of unity of the Russian grammarians or

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<sup>(1)</sup> Vergleichende Grammatik der Slavischen Sprachen. Vienna 1883. 4<sup>th</sup> Vol., p. 274.

β) the action may not have a simultaneous beginning and end and this class is further subdivided into 1) where the action the completion of which is predicated, is a continuous one or 2) repeated at various times. The first of these MIKLOSICH calls durative perfective, the second iterative perfective.

The imperfective verbs express an action that is not completed but this may be conceived either *a*) as merely continuing or *b*) repeated at various times. The verbs of the first class are called durative, the verbs of the second class, iterative, and of these last there are two forms, but into further minutiae it is impossible to enter here. Enough has been given to shew the riches of the Slavonic verbal system.

Each aspect is regularly conjugated according to its own moods and tenses.

*a*) The imperfective aspect has all the moods and tenses.

*b*) The perfective wants the present and imperfect tenses.

*c*) The iterative has no present tense, and is also deficient in the imperative mood.

The various aspects are arranged under the six conjugations, according to the system, which follows immediately in the grammar.<sup>(1)</sup> Thus one aspect of a verb will belong to one conjugation and another aspect to another. The knowledge of these aspects can only be gained by the use of a good dictionary, as they vary greatly both in termination and prefix, and it is the

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(1) For remarks on these involving much minute detail the student must consult MIKLOSICH.

large employment of the prepositions for this latter purpose which makes the study of them so important in the Slavonic languages. A list of the most common of them with their various uses is therefore added.

Besides the aspects of verbs already noticed there are also diminutive verbs, as *говоркати*, *to speak a little*, *скакытати*, *to hop about a little*. Similar forms are also to be found in the Upper-Sorbish and Malo-Russian languages. Verbs which have every aspect are rarely found.

The iterative aspect may often be known by the termination -ати or -авати, thus *дати*, *to give*, *давати*, *to give often*; *спати*, *to sleep*, *спавати*, *to sleep often*. Sometimes the aspect is determined by the accent of which examples can be seen in MIKLOSICH, *Vergleichende Grammatik* IV, 282.

Compound verbs are those which take a preposition before them. The prefixes which must be learned by consulting a dictionary have no influence upon the conjugation of a verb, for it is a rule that compound verbs follow the conjugation of the simple verb from which they are derived.

A few of the prefixes, however, are here introduced to guide the reader in the changes of the various aspects.

*до*, which implies carrying the action to the extremity, as *дохранити*, *to guard to the end*.

*на*, has somewhat of the same signification, as *наиграти се*, *to play till one is tired out*.

*о*, *об*, sometimes signifies around, as *окресати*, *to cut the edges round*, and sometimes intensifies the signification. It also helps to form the perfect aspect, as *опити*, *to get drunk*. Cf. the uses of *пјевао* and *опјевао* in the extract at the end of the Grammar.

од, ода, gives the idea of separation, as одагнати, *to drive away*.

по sometimes gives to imperfect verbs the signification of perfect, as попити, *to drink to the dregs*.

под expresses underneath, like the Latin *sub*, as подјармити, *to put under the yoke, to subjugate*.

пре implies change, going from one place to another, as пребродити, *to cross a river*.

пред, before, as предброити, *to pay beforehand, to subscribe*.

раз expresses the idea of destruction or diffusion, as разградити, *to demolish*.

с, са, denotes either a) union, as саставити, *to join*, or b) descent, as с-лазити, *to descend from*.

у, in, either a) implies entrance, as улазити, *to enter*, or b) gives the tense of completed action, as упалити, *to set on fire*.

уз, up either a) has this sense simply, as узиди, *to mount*; b) or gives to imperfect verse the sense of perfect, as узплодити, *to fructify*; c) it is used to make the future simple conditional of an ordinary verb, as is afterwards shewn on page 56, as ако узхтијем, *if I should wish*.<sup>(1)</sup>

за is sometimes used in the sense of beginning, as започети, *to begin*.

The following are the original personal suffixes, which are either present or have disappeared through phonetic decay in the tenses.

(1) Those who spell phonetically write this *з* in many cases *с*, thus усплодити is more usual than узплодити.

<i>Singular.</i>	<i>Plural.</i>
1. M	MO
2. CH	TE
3. T	HT

The *T* of the 3d pers. singular and plural is lost. The connecting vowel is *e* or *o*, as may be seen in the forms of the tenses.

The verbs of the class marked *B*, where there is no present suffix, such as *jad*, *dad*, *vêd* and *jec* are considered by MIKLOSICH to be remains of an older stage of the language, when the present was formed without *e*.

The conjugations of the Serbian verb will be here arranged, according to the system of MIKLOSICH. Before, however, giving the several classes of verbs, it will be as well to give his analysis of the Slavonic verb generally. Each verb has two stems, firstly the infinitive stem and secondly the present stem.

1) THE INFINITIVE STEM.—In this the verbs are divided into two classes, according as they add the verbal suffixes immediately to the root, or add them to the root or a noun or verbal-stem by means of one of the following suffixes: *nq*<sup>(1)</sup>, *e*, *i*, *a*, *ua* (*ova*). Putting these two together we may say that verbal stems are divided into six classes:

- a*) Stems without suffixes;
- b*) *nq*-stems;
- c*) *ê*-stems;

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(1) By *q* is expressed the nasal, which existed in Old-Slavonic, and although now lost, influences the verb and explains the principles of its conjugation.

- d) *i*-stems;
- e) *a*-stems;
- f) *ova*-stems.

The special infinitive stems are:—1) the infinitive, 2) the supine, 3) 1st past participle active, 4) 2nd past participle active, 5) past participle passive, 6) aorist.

2) THE PRESENT STEMS are:—1) the present, 2) imperative, 3) imperfect, 4) present participle active, 5) present participle passive.

According to the present stems the verbs fall into two classes, as the forms of the present are made with the help of the present suffix-*e* or without it.

#### A.—CONJUGATION WITH THE PRESENT SUFFIX.

##### *First class.*

##### STEMS WITHOUT SUFFIXES.

##### I. плет, *to braid.*

α) inf. stem плет; inf. плес-ти; past part. active I плетав<sup>(1)</sup>, плетавши; II плео; past part. passive плетен.

##### AORIST.

Sg. 1	плет-о-х	Pl.	плет-о-с-мо
2	плет-е		плет-о-с-те
3	плет-е		плет-о-ш-е

β) present stem плет-е.

##### PRESENT.

Sg. 1	плет-е-м	Pl.	плет-е-мо
2	плет-е-ш		плет-е-те
3	плет-е		плету

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(1) The indeclinable forms of the participles are sometimes called gerunds.

## IMPERATIVE.

Sg. 1	Pl. мет-и-мо
2 мет-и	мет-и-те

## IMPERFECT

Sg. 1 мет-и-а-х	Pl. мет-и-а-с-мо
2 мет-и-а-ш-е	мет-и-а-с-те
3 мет-и-а-ш-е	мет-и-а-х-у
PART. PRES. ACT. мет-у-ћи	

II. пас, *to pasture.*

а) inf. stem пас; inf. пас-ти; past part. act. I пасав, пасавши; II пасав; past part. passive пасен.

## AORIST.

Sg. 1 пас-о-х	Pl. пас-о-с-мо
2 пас-е	пас-о-с-те
3 пас-е	пас-о-ш-е

β) present stem пасе.

## PRESENT.

Sg. 1 пас-е-м	Pl. пас-е-мо
2 пас-е-ш	пас-е-те
3 пас-е	пас-у

## IMPERATIVE.

Sg. 1	Pl. пас-и-мо
2 пас-и	пас-и-те

## IMPERFECT.

Sg. 1 пас-и-а-х	Pl. пас-и-а-с-мо
2 пас-и-а-ш-е	пас-и-а-с-те
3 пас-и-а-ш-е	пас-и-а-х-у
PART. PRES. ACT. пас-у-ћи	

III. греб, *to scratch*.

α) inf. stem греб; inf. греб-с-ти; past part. act. I гребав, гребавши; II гребao; past part. passive гребен.

## AORIST.

Sg. 1	греб-о-х	Pl. греб-о-с-мо
2	греб-е	греб-о-с-те
3	греб-е	греб-о-ш-е

β) present stem греб-е.

## PRESENT.

Sg. 1	греб-е-м	Pl. греб-е-мо
2	греб-е-ш	греб-е-те
3	греб-е	греб-у

## IMPERATIVE.

Sg. 1	Pl. греб-и-мо
2 греб-и	греб-и-те

## IMPERFECT.

Sg. 1	греб-и-ја-х	Pl. греб-и-ја-с-мо
2	греб-и-ја-ш-е	греб-и-ја-с-те
3	греб-и-ја-ш-е	греб-и-ја-х-у

PART. PRES. ACT. греб-ући.

IV. пек, *to bake*.

α) inf. stem пек; inf. пећи; past part. act. I пекав, пекавши; II пекао; past part. passive печен.

## AORIST.

Sg. 1	пек-о-х	Pl. пек-о-с-мо
2	печ-е	пек-о-с-те
3	печ-е	пек-о-ш-е

## β) present stem пек-е.

## PRESENT.

Sg. 1	печ-е-м	Pl. печ-е-мо
2	печ-е-ш	печ-е-те
3	печ-е	пек-у

## IMPERATIVE.

Sg. 1	Pl. пец-и-мо
2	печи пец-и-те

## IMPERFECT.

Sg. 1	пец-ија-х	Pl. пец-ија-с-мо
2	пец-ија-ш-е	пец-ија-с-те
3	пец-ија-ш-е	пец-ија-х-у

PART. PRES. ACT. пек-ући

V. кльн<sup>(1)</sup>, *to curse*.

α) inf. stem кле; inf. кле-ти; past part. act. I клев, кле-в-ши; II кле-о; past part. passive клет.

## AORIST.

Sg. 1	клех	Pl. кле-с-мо
2	кле	кле-с-те
3	кле	кле-ш-е

## β) present stem кльн-е.

## PRESENT.

Sg. 1	кун-е-м	Pl. кун-е-мо
2	кун-е-ш	кун-е-те
3	кун-е	кун-у

## IMPERATIVE.

Sg. 1	Pl. кун-и-мо
2	куни кун-и-те

(<sup>1</sup>) The ъ is used by MIKLOSICH to express the short i (ǐ) between л and н.

## IMPERFECT.

Sg. 1	кун-ија-х	Pl. кун-ија-с-мо
2	кун-ија-ш--е	кун-ија-с-те
3	кун-ија-ш-е	кун-ија-х-у

PRES. PART. ACT. кун-ућн.

VI. *mp*, to die.

α) inf. stem *mp*; inf. *mp*-ије-ти; past part. act. I *mp*-в, *mp*-вши; II *mpo*; past part. passive *тпен*.<sup>(1)</sup>

## AORIST.

Sg. 1	<i>mp</i> -ије-х	Pl. <i>mp</i> -ије-с-мо
2	<i>mp</i> -ије	<i>mp</i> -ије-с-те
3	<i>mp</i> -ије	<i>mp</i> -ије-ш-е

β) present stem *мпе*.

## PRESENT.

Sg. 1	<i>mp</i> -е-м	Pl. <i>mp</i> -е-мо
2	<i>mp</i> -е-ш	<i>mp</i> -е-те
3	<i>мпе</i>	<i>mp</i> -у

## IMPERATIVE.

Sg. 1		Pl. <i>mp</i> -и-мо
2	<i>мпи</i>	<i>mp</i> -и-те

## IMPERFECT.

Sg. 1	( <i>прах</i> )	<i>прах</i>	Pl. ( <i>пр-а-с-мо</i> )	<i>пр-а-с-мо</i>
2	( <i>пр-а-ш-е</i> )	<i>пр-а-ш-е</i>	( <i>пр-а-с-те</i> )	<i>пр-а-с-те</i>
3	( <i>пр-а-ш-е</i> )	<i>пр-а-ш-е</i>	( <i>пр-а-х-у</i> ) <sup>(2)</sup>	<i>пр-а-х-у</i>

PRES. PART. ACT. *mp*-ућн.

(<sup>1</sup>) The past participle passive of the verb *mp* is wanting and to complete the paradigm in its place is put that of the verb *тпн*. Cf. DANIČIĆ, Облици Српс. Језика 91.

(<sup>2</sup>) MIKLOSICH gives this as supplied from the verb *прати*, to wash, a regular form however is given in *mp*-а-х by DANIČIĆ, Об. С. Ј. 90.

VII. би, *to beat*.

α) inf. stem би; inf. би-ти; past part. act. I бив, би-вши; II би-о; past part. passive бит.

## AORIST.

Sg. 1	би-х	Pl. би-с-мо
2	би	би-с-те
3	би	би-ш-е

β) present stem би-j-e.

## PRESENT.

Sg. 1	би-j-e-м	Pl. би-j-e-мо
2	би-j-e-ш	би-j-e-те
3	би-j-e	би-j-y

## IMPERATIVE.

Sg. 1	Pl. би-j-мо
2 би-j	би-j-те

## IMPERFECT.

Sg. 1	би-j-a-х	Pl. би-j-a-с-мо
2	би-j-a-ш-е	би-j-a-с-те
3	би-j-a-ш-е	би-j-a-ху

PRES. PART. ACT. би-j-yѣн.

*Second class.*

*ng*-STEMS (in the Old-Slavonic with a nasalized *a*).

тону, *to sink*.

α) inf. stem тону; inf. тону-ти; past part. act. I тонув, тонувши; II тону-о; past part. passive тегнут.(<sup>1</sup>)

(<sup>1</sup>) There is no past participle passive to this verb, and to complete the form it is supplied from verbs like затегнути. See ДАНИЋИĆ, p. 93. The root is **тон**, compare потоп, *a flood*; the **п** has dropped out.

## AORIST.

Sg. 1	тоу-х	Pl.	тоу-с-мо
2	тоу		тоу-с-те
3	тоу		тоу-ш-е

β) present stem тои-е.

## PRESENT.

Sg. 1	тои-е-м	Pl.	тои-е-мо
2	тои-е-ш		тои-е-те
3	тои-е		тои-у

## IMPERATIVE.

Sg. 1		Pl.	тои-и-мо
2	тои-и		тои-и-те

## IMPERFECT.

Sg. 1	тои-ја-х	Pl.	тои-ја-с-мо
2	тои-ја-ш-е		тои-ја-с-те
3	тои-ја-ш-е		тои-ја-х-у

PRES. PART. ACT. тои-ући.

*Third class.*

## ê-STEMS.

First group.

умѐ, *to understand, to know.*

α) inf. stem умје; inf. умје-ти; past part act. I умје-в, умјев-ши; II ум-и-о; past part. passive шти-в-е-и. <sup>(1)</sup>.

## AORIST.

Sg. 1	умје-х	Pl.	умје-с-мо
2	умје		умје-с-те
3	умје		умје-ш-е

<sup>(1)</sup> штивен is borrowed from the verb штити, *to read, to complete the paradigm.*

β) present stem *ymi-j-e*.

## PRESENT.

Sg. 1	<i>ymi-j-e-m</i>	Pl. <i>ymi-j-e-mo</i>
2	<i>ymi-j-e-sh</i>	<i>ymi-j-e-te</i>
3	<i>ymi-j-e</i>	<i>ymi-j-y</i>

## IMPERATIVE.

Sg. 1	Pl. <i>ymi-j-mo</i>
2 <i>ymi-j</i>	<i>ymi-j-te</i>

## IMPERFECT.

Sg. 1	<i>ymi-ja-x</i>	Pl. <i>ymi-ja-c-mo</i>
2	<i>ymi-ja-sh-e</i>	<i>ymi-ja-c-te</i>
3	<i>ymi-ja-sh-e</i>	<i>ymi-ja-x-y</i>

PRES. PART. ACT. *ymi-j-yhi*.

## Second group.

*gorê, to burn.*

α) inf. stem *gorje*; inf. *gorje-ti*; past part. act. I *gorjev*, *gorjevshi*; II *gorio*; past part. passive *vidje-n*.<sup>(1)</sup>

## AORIST.

Sg. 1	<i>gorje-x</i>	Pl. <i>gorje-c-mo</i>
2	<i>gorje</i>	<i>gorje-c-te</i>
3	<i>gorje</i>	<i>gorje-sh-e</i>

β) present stem *gori-e*.

## PRESENT.

Sg. 1	<i>gori-m</i>	Pl. <i>gori-mo</i>
2	<i>gori-sh</i>	<i>gori-te</i>
3	<i>gori</i>	<i>gor-e</i>

<sup>(1)</sup> This has been taken by MIKLOSICH from a corresponding form *vidjeti*, *to see*, which is the specimen given by DANIČIĆ, 06. Ср. Јез. 98.

## IMPERATIVE.

Sg. 1	Pl. гори-мо
2 гори	гори-те

## IMPERFECT.

Sg. 1 гори-ја-х	Pl. гори-ја-с-мо
2 гори-ја-ш-е	гори-ја-с-те
3 гори-ја-ш-е	гори-ја-х-у

PRES. PART. ACT. горећи.

*Fourth class.**i-STEMS.*хвали, *to praise.*

α) inf. stem хвали; inf. хвали-ти; past part. act. I хвалив, хвали-вши; II хвали-о; past part. passive хвалј-е-н.

## AORIST.

Sg. 1 хвалих	Pl. хвали-с-мо
2 хвали	хвали-с-те
3 хвали	хвали-ш-е

β) present stem хвали-е.

## PRESENT.

Sg. 1 хвалим	Pl. хвали-мо
2 хвалиш	хвали-те
3 хвали	хвале

## IMPERATIVE.

Sg. 1	Pl. хвали-мо
2 хвали	хвали-те

## IMPERFECT.

Sg. 1 хваља-х	Pl. хваља-а-с-мо
2 хваља-а-ш-е	хваља-а-с-те
3 хваља-а-ш-е	хваља-а-х-у

PRES. PART. ACT. хвалећи.

*Fifth class.**a-STEMS.*

## First group.

чува, *to guard.*

α) inf. stem чува; inf. чува-ти; past part. act. I чува-в, чува-в-ши; II чува-о; past part. passive чува-н.

## AORIST.

Sg. 1	чува-х	Pl.	чува-с-мо
2	чува		чува-с-те
3	чува		чува-ш-е

β) present stem чува-је.

## PRESENT.

Sg. 1	чува-м	Pl.	чува-мо
2	чува-ш		чува-те
3	чува		чува-ју

## IMPERATIVE.

Sg. 1		Pl.	чува-ј-мо
2	чува-ј		чува-ј-те

## IMPERFECT.

Sg. 1	чува-х	Pl.	чува-с-мо
2	чува-ш-е		чува-с-те
3	чува-ш-е		чува-х-у

PRES. PART. ACT. чува-ј-ући.

## Second group.

писа, *to write.*

α) inf. stem писа; inf. писа-ти; past part. act. I писа-в, писа-в-ши; II писа-о; past part. passive писан.

## AORIST.

Sg. 1	писа-х	Pl.	писа-с-мо
2	писа		писа-с-те
3	писа		писа-ш-е

## β) present stem пиш-е.

## PRESENT.

Sg. 1	пиш-е-м	Pl. пиш-е-мо
2	пиш-е-ш	пиш-е-те
3	пиш-е	пиш-у

## IMPERATIVE.

Sg. 1	Pl. пиш-и-мо
2	пиш-и-те

## IMPERFECT.

Sg. 1	писа-х	Pl. писа-с-мо
2	писа-ш-е	писа-с-те
3	писа-ш-е	писа-х-у

PRES. PART. ACT. пиш-уѣи.

## Third group.

бра, *to collect.*

α) inf. stem бра; inf. бра-ти; past part. act. I брав, бравши; II брао; past part. passive бра-н.

## AORIST.

Sg. 1	бра-х	Pl. бра-с-мо
2	бра	бра-с-те
3	бра	бра-ш-е

## β) present stem бер-е.

## PRESENT.

Sg. 1	бер-е-м	Pl. бер-е-мо
2	бер-е-ш	бер-е-те
3	бер-е	бер-у

## IMPERATIVE.

Sg. 1	Pl. бер-и-мо
2	бер-и-те

## IMPERFECT.

Sg. 1	брах	Pl. бра-с-мо
2	бра-ш-е	бра-с-те
3	бра-ш-е	бра-х-у

PRES. PART. ACT. бер-уѣи.

## Fourth group.

cêja, *to sow.*(<sup>1</sup>)

α) inf. stem сија; inf. сија-ти; past part. act. I сија-в, сија-в-ши; II сијao; past part. passive сија-н.

## AORIST.

Sg. 1	сија-х	Pl. сија-с-мо
2	сија	сија-с-те
3	сија	сија-ш-е

β) present stem си-ј-е.

## PRESENT.

Sg. 1	си-ј-е-м	Pl. си-ј-е-мо
2	си-ј-е-ш	си-ј-е-те
3	си-ј-е	си-ј-у

## IMPERATIVE.

Sg. 1		Pl. си-ј-мо
2	сиј	си-ј-те

## IMPERFECT.

Sg. 1	си-ј-а-х	Pl. си-ј-а-с-мо
2	си-ј-а-ш-е	си-ј-а-с-те
3	си-ј-а-ш-е	си-ј-а-х-у

PRES. PART. ACT. си-ј-уѣи.

---

(<sup>1</sup>) The ê correspond to the old Slavonic ѣ.

*Sixth class.**ova (ua)-STEMS.*

α) inf. stem купова; inf. купова-ти; past part. act. I куповав, купова-в-ши; II купова-о; past part. pass. купован.

## AORIST.

Sg. 1	купова-х	Pl.	купова-с-мо
2	купова		купова-с-те
3	купова		купова-ш-е

β) present stem купу-ј-е.

## PRESENT.

Sg. 1	купу-ј-е-м	Pl.	купу-ј-е-мо
2	купи-ј-е-ш		купу-ј-е-те
3	купу-ј-е		купу-ј-у

## IMPERATIF.

Sg. 1		Pl.	купу-ј-мо
2	купу-ј-е		купу-ј-те

## IMPERFECT.

Sg. 1	купова-х	Pl.	купова-с-мо
2	купова-ш-е		купова-с-те
3	купова-ш-е		купова-х-у

PRES. PART. ACT. купу-ј-ућн.

## B.—CONJUGATION WITHOUT THE PRESENT SUFFIX.

1. вѣд, *to know.*(<sup>1</sup>)

## PRESENT.

Sg. 1	ви-м	Pl.	ви-мо
2	ви-ш		ви-те
3	ви		ви-ју

(<sup>1</sup>) By the addition of these forms the Serbian verb is brought into harmony with the old Slavonic system; ê corresponds to the old Slavonic ѣ. The forms of the root вѣд are only found in Serbian with prefixes; *e. g.* повиј. The infinitive is wanting and is supplied by знати and умјети, but Slovenish helps us to fill of the gap and gives both vediti and věděti (Šuman, *Slovenska Slovnica*, p. 161).

IMPERATIVE.

Sg. 1	Pl. вијмо
2 виј	вијте

2. дад (дати), *to give.*

PRESENT.

Sg. 1 да-м	Pl. да-мо
2 да-ш	да-те
3 да	дад-у

IMPERATIVE.

Sg. 1	Pl. дај-мо
2 дај	дај-те

3. јѐд (јести), *to eat.*<sup>(1)</sup>

PRESENT.

Sg. 1 џје-м	Pl. џје-мо
2 џје-ш	џје-те
3 џје	џју

IMPERATIVE.

Sg. 1	Pl. једи-мо
2 једи	једи-те

4. јес, *to be.*<sup>(2)</sup>

PRESENT.

Sg. 1 јес-а-м	Pl. јес-мо
2 је-си	јес-те
3 јес-т	јес-у

The present tense is shortened into *сам, си, је, смо, сте, су* and with the negation *нисам, ниси, &c.*

(<sup>1</sup>) In the Serbian dialect strictly so called the initial *и* of this tense is omitted.

(<sup>2</sup>) For practical purposes this tense is given over again on page 51 in the full paradigm of the verb *бити, to be.*

The Serbian verb has the following moods:—Indicative, imperative, conditional and infinitive. It has also the following tenses: the present, the imperfect (not much used in ordinary conversation), the aorist, the perfect, the pluperfect, the past anterior, the simple future, the future anterior.

It will thus be seen that there are many compound tenses, and the mode of forming these will be given, before we proceed to the paradigms of the complete verb.

The auxiliaries are *хотјети* or *хтети*, *хоћу*, *will*, and *бити*, *to be*.

A.—With the auxiliary *хотјети* is formed the simple future by abridging the present of that verb, and adding it to the infinitive of the verb, the sense of which it is to modify, thus we get *ћу*, *ћеш* &c. *ја ћу чинити*, or more frequently in the contracted form *чинити ћу*. Also *би ћеш*, *thou wilt be*, for *бити ћеш*; cf. also *хвали ћеш*, *плати ћеш* which are generally written as one word. The full form is used in interrogative propositions and the corresponding answers, *e. g.* *хоћеш ли доћи са мном*, *will you come with me*; *хоћу*, *I will come*.

B.—The use of *бити* is far more elaborate and the following tenses are formed from it.

1) The perfect, which is formed by the present of the verb *бити*, and the second past participle active, which is inflected -ао, -ла, -ло for the singular and -ли for plural, as *ја сам пао* or *пао сам*, *I have fallen*; *Г. Ристич је потпуно успио*, *M. Ristich has completely succeeded*.

2) The pluperfect, which is formed by the imperfect of the auxiliary verb and the second past participle; as *бијаш* or *бјех чинио*, *I had done*.

3) The past anterior, which is formed by the perfect of the auxiliary and the second past participle of the verb, as *ja sam bio činio*, *I had done*.

4) The future anterior formed by the simple future and the second past participle of the verb, as *ja ću biti učinio*, *I shall have done*.

5) The present conditional is formed by adding the aorist *bih* of the auxiliary to the second past participle, as *ja bih činio*, *I should do*. Cf. English 'If I were to do'.

6) The past conditional is formed by adding the past participle of the auxiliary, *bio*, with the aorist *bih* to the second past participle, as *bio bih pao*, *I should have fallen*.

7) The compound future of the conditional which is formed by the simple future of the auxiliary added to the second past participle of the verb, as *ako budem pao*, *in case I shall have fallen*. The infinitive may also be equally used, as *ako budem pasti*.

8) The past infinitive is expressed by the aid of the present infinitive of the auxiliary and the second past participle of the verb;—e. g. *biti činio*, *to have done*.

9) The third persons singular and plural of the imperative are the same as the third persons singular and plural of the present indicative with the prefix of *neka*.

The full conjugation of the verb *biti*, *to be*, is here given on account of its importance as an auxiliary.

(1) Its formation by the help of the infinitive seems to be more in use among the Croats than the Serbs.

## PRESENT TENSE.

*Singular.*

јесам or сам, *I am*  
 јеси or си, *thou art*  
 јест or је, *he is*

*Plural.*

јесмо or смо, *we are*  
 јесте or сте, *you are*  
 јесу or су, *they are*

## IMPERFECT.

*Singular.*

бијах (or бјех), *I was*, or бих  
 бијаше, бјеше, *thou wast*, or би  
 бијаше, бјеше, *he was*, or би

*Plural.*

бијасмо, бјесмо, *we were*, or бисмо  
 бијасте, бјесте, *you were*, or бисте  
 бијаху, бјеху, *they were*, or бише

## AORIST.

*Singular.*

бих  
 би  
 би

*Plural.*

бисмо  
 бисте  
 бише

## PERFECT.

*Singular.*

ја сам, *I have*  
 ти си, *thou hast*  
 он, она, оно је, *he has* } бно, била, било, *been*

*Plural.*

ми смо, *we have*  
 ви сте, *you have*  
 они, оне, она су, *they have* } били, -е, -а, *been*

## FUTURE.

*Singular.*

будем, *I shalt be*  
 будеш, *thou shall be*  
 буде, *he shall be*

*Plural.*

будемо, *we shall be*  
 будете, *you shall be*  
 буду, *they shall be*

## IMPERATIVE.

*Singular.*

буди, *be thou*  
нека буде, *let him be*

*Plural.*

будимо, *let us be*  
будите, *be ye*  
нека буду, *let them be.*

INFINITIVE: бити, *to be.*

PARTICIPLES: бивши, *having been.*

PAST: био, ја, ло, *been.*

FUTURE: будући, *being.*

The past participle is used in composition to express a condition, cf. our were I that, I should go, &c.

NOTE.—The prefix не which is often joined to Serbian verbs and gives a negative sense, becomes ни in the present tense of the verb бити, as ни-јесам, *contracted*, нисам, &c.

Besides the forms already given in the fully conjugated verb, some grammarians have assigned a supine to the Serbian verb; this however is declared by Миклович (Vergl. Gramm. III, 225) to have been long out of use.

The present tense of the verb хотјети is here added as it is used as an auxiliary to express the future.

*Singular.*

1. хоћу or ћу
2. хоћеш or ћеш
3. хоће or ће

*Plural.*

- хоћемо or ћемо  
хоћете or ћете  
хоће or ће

## NEGATIVE FORM.

*Singular.*

нећу  
нећеш  
неће

*Plural.*

нећемо  
нећете  
неће

## PARADIGM OF A COMPLETE VERB. (1)

## A.—ACTIVE VOICE.

## PRESENT.

<i>Singular.</i>	<i>Plural.</i>
хвалим, <i>I praise</i>	хвалимо, <i>we praise</i>
хвалиш, <i>thou praisest</i>	хвалите, <i>you praise</i>
хвали, <i>he praises</i>	хвале, <i>they praise</i>

## IMPERFECT.

<i>Singular.</i>	<i>Plural.</i>
хваљах, <i>I was praising</i>	хваљасмо, <i>we were praising</i>
хваљаше, <i>thou wast praising</i>	хваљасте, <i>you were praising</i>
хваљаше, <i>he was praising</i>	хваљаху, <i>they were praising</i>

## AORIST.

<i>Singular.</i>	<i>Plural.</i>
хвалих, <i>I praised</i>	хвалисмо, <i>we praised</i>
хвали, <i>thou didst praise</i>	хвалисте, <i>ye praised</i>
хвали, <i>he praised</i>	хвалише, <i>they praised</i>

## PERFECT.

*Singular.*

јесам, сам хвалио, *I have praised*  
 јеси, си хвалио, *thou hast praised*  
 јест, је хвалио, *he has praised*

*Plural.*

јесмо, смо хвалили, *we have praised*  
 јесте, сте хвалили, *ye have praised*  
 јесу, су хвалили, *they have praised*

---

(1) As the verbal suffixes have already been marked they are not specified on this occasion.

## PLUPERFECT.

*Singular.*

бијах (бјех) хваљно, *I had praised*  
 бијаше (бјеше) хваљно, *thou hadst praised*  
 бијаше (бјеше) хваљно, *he had praised*

*Plural.*

бијасмо (бјесмо) хваљили, *we had praised*  
 бијасте (бјесте) хваљили, *you had praised*  
 бијаху (бјеху) хваљили, *they had praised*

## PAST ANTERIOR.

*Singular.*

био сам хваљно, *I had praised*  
 био си хваљно, *thou hadst praised*  
 био је хваљно, *he had praised*

*Plural.*

били смо хваљили, *we had praised*  
 били сте хваљили, *ye had praised*  
 били су хваљили, *they had praised* <sup>(1)</sup>

## FUTURE SIMPLE.

*Singular.*

хвалит ћу, *I shall praise*  
 хвалит ћеш, *thou shalt praise*  
 хвалит ће, *he shall praise*

*Plural.*

хвалит ћемо, *we shall praise*  
 хвалит ћете, *ye shall praise*  
 хвалит ће, *they shall praise*

---

(1) The arrangement is altered, if the personal pronoun is introduced:—thus the order would be ја сам био хваљно, &c. So also in the future simple it would be ја ћу хвалити, &c., and the present conditional without the personal pronouns would be хваљно бих.

## FUTURE ANTERIOR.

*Singular.*

БИТ ЋУ ХВАЛНО, *I shall have praised*  
 БИТ ЋЕШ ХВАЛНО, *thou shalt have praised*  
 БИТ ЋЕ ХВАЛНО, *he shall have praised*

*Plural.*

БИТ ЋЕМО ХВАЛИЛИ, *we shall have praised*  
 БИТ ЋЕТЕ ХВАЛИЛИ, *ye shall have praised*  
 БИТ ЋЕ ХВАЛИЛИ, *they shall have praised*

## Conditional-Mood.

## PRESENT.

*Singular.*

ЈА БИХ ХВАЛНО, *I should praise*<sup>(1)</sup>  
 ТИ БИ ХВАЛНО, *thou shouldst praise*  
 ОН БИ ХВАЛНО, *he should praise*

*Plural.*

МИ БИСМО ХВАЛИЛИ, *we should praise*  
 ВИ БИСТЕ ХВАЛИЛИ, *you should praise*  
 ОНИ БИ ХВАЛИЛИ, *they should praise*

## PAST.

*Singular.*

БИО БИХ ХВАЛНО, *I should have praised*  
 БИО БИ ХВАЛНО, *thou shouldst have praised*  
 БИО БИ ХВАЛНО, *he should have praised*

*Plural.*

БИЛИ БИСМО ХВАЛИЛИ, *we should have praised*  
 БИЛИ БИСТЕ ХВАЛИЛИ, *you should have praised*  
 БИЛИ БИ ХВАЛИЛИ, *they should have praised*

---

(1) The personal pronouns are sometimes omitted in the case of verbs, when they are not wanted for clearness or emphasis. They have, therefore, not been given with all the tenses.

## FUTURE SIMPLE.

*Singular.*у3-хвалим, *if I shall praise*у3-хвалиши, *if thou shalt praise*у3-хвалит, *if he shall praise**Plural.*у3-хвалимо, *if we shall praise*у3-хвалите, *if ye shall praise*у3-хваляе, *if they shall praise*

The prefix here gives a future meaning to an imperfect verb and the practice of the Slavonic languages of introducing compound forms into simple verbs, where some tenses in simple verbs are deficient has been previously explained on page 34. By this prefix an imperfective verb is made perfective. The prefix, the use of which МИКЛОСИЧ compares with the Greek ἀνά is employed to make an imperfective verb perfective. It is only employed in dependent sentences and only with this tense. Thus cf. Matthew 5, 11. Благо вама ако вас узасрамоте и успрогоне и реку на вас свакојаке рѣве рижечн, *blessed are ye when men shall revile you and persecute you and shall say all manner of evil against you.*

This tense is always used with a conjunction, as да, ако, кад, нека

## COMPOUND FUTURE.

*Singular.*будем хвалино, (*if*) *I shall have praised*будеш хвалино, (*if*) *thou shalt have praised*буде хвалино, (*if*) *he shall have praised**Plural.*будемо хвалили, (*if*) *we shall have praised*будете хвалили, (*if*) *you shall have praised*буду хвалили, (*if*) *they shall have praised*

## IMPERATIVE.

*Singular.*хвали, *praise thou*нека хвали, *let him praise**Plural.*хвалимо, *let us praise*хвалите, *praise ye*нека хвале, *let them praise*INF. PRES.: хвалити, *to praise.*INF. PAST: бити хвалио, *to have praised.*PART. PRES.: хвалећи, -а, -е, *praising.*I. PART. PAST: хваливши, -а, -е, *having praised.*II. PART. PAST: хвалио, -ла, -ло, *praised.*<sup>(1)</sup>PASS. PART. PAST: хваљен, -а, -о, *praised.*<sup>(1)</sup>GERUND PRES.: хвалећи(и), *praising.*GERUND PAST: хвалив(ши), *having praised.*

Each verb has its verbal noun, as чување, *the act of watching*; пјевање, *the singing*.

## B.—THE PASSIVE VOICE.

This may be expressed by the past participle passive of the verb with the auxiliary бити, but this form is very rarely used by the Serbs. It is generally expressed by the active with the relative се, as не судите да вам се не суди, *judge not that ye be not judged*.

It may be said of the Slavonic languages generally that they abhor passive forms.

## IMPERSONAL VERBS.

Such are

дажди, *it rains,*грми, *it thunders,*снежи, *it snows.*


---

<sup>(1)</sup> Serbian, like Malo-Russian and Polish has no present participle passive.

Some are reflexive, as

дани се, *it begins to dawn*,  
сморкава се, *it grows dark*.

Sometimes personal verbs are used impersonally by an idiom in which all the Slavonic languages share, as

спи ми се, *I sleep*,  
треба ми се, *I have need*,  
хоће, неће ми се, *I wish, I do not wish*.

There are certain other idiomatic uses of impersonal verbs, the knowledge of which must be acquired by practice;—e. g. срди ме, *it makes me feel angry*; жао ми је, *I am sorry*; може, as може се добити у књижари, *it may be procured from the booksellers*. Very frequent is the impersonal use of неима or није, as in other Slavonic languages, as неима среће код куће, *there is no prosperity at home*.

#### IRREGULAR VERBS.

A few remarks on some irregular verbs in constant use are here added for the benefit of the student.

Ткати, *to weave*, makes in the present tense ткам, ткем and чем.

Спати, *to sleep*, makes in the present спим.

To the second class of stems without suffixes belongs the irregular verb нести, for the aorist the forms несох, нијех occur. The past participle active II is нио, њела, but sometimes несао, несла, ло; ити (ићи), *to go*, has the following forms:

## PRESENT.

идем ог идеш &c. (иђем, еш &c.).

## IMPERFECT.

идах ог идијаш,  
идаше ог идијаше (иђаш, иђаше).

## AORIST.

идох ог иде (иђох ог иђе).

## IMPERATIVE.

иди, идите (иђи, иђите).

PRES. PARTICIPLE: идући.

PAST PART. ACTIVE I: ишавши (идавши).

PAST PART. ACTIVE II: ишао, ишла, ишло. <sup>(1)</sup>

PASSIVE PARTICIPLE: иђен, а, о (ишаст, а, о).

Гнати, *to hunt*, *a*-stems, No. 3, makes in present женем, also ренем and sometimes гнам.

## ADVERBS.

The Serbian language in this respect does not exhibit any peculiarities. The ordinary termination of the adverb when derived from the adjective is -о, as добро, *well*. A few specimens of each kind of adverb are given here, but the learner will easily get them from the dictionary.

Those adverbs which are derived from adjectives have a comparative and superlative;—the comparative ending in -ије and the superlative being formed by the addition of нај or пре, as весело, *merrily*, веселије, *more merrily*, највеселије or превесело, *most merrily*.

---

(<sup>1</sup>) Russian шёлъ, шла, шло, the initial vowel being lost.

## ADVERBS OF MANNER.

како, <i>as</i> ,	тако, <i>so</i> ,
пјешке, <i>on foot</i> ,	врло, <i>very</i> .

Among these adverbs besides those formed from adjectives, certain adverbial expressions formed by a preposition and a noun must be included, as изненада, *unexpectedly*; изтиха, *slowly*; с мјеста, *straight away* and others. Many end in -ски derived from adjectives, as француски, *in the French way*; господски, *as a master*.

## ADVERBS OF QUANTITY.

довољно, <i>enough</i> ,	обилно, <i>abundantly</i> ,
мало, <i>a little</i> ,	ништа, <i>nothing</i> ,
више, <i>more</i> ,	тек, <i>a little</i> .

## ADVERBS OF PLACE.

близу, <i>near</i> ,	около, <i>around</i> ,
доли, <i>below</i> ,	скроз, <i>through</i> ,
тамо амо, <i>here and there</i> ,	
преко, <i>across</i> .	

## ADVERBS OF TIME.

брзо, <i>quickly</i> ,	давно, <i>long ago</i> ,
рано, <i>early</i> ,	већ, <i>already</i> ,
скоро, <i>quickly</i> ,	сада, <i>now</i> ,
кашто, <i>sometimes</i> ,	ноћу, <i>during the night</i> .

## INTERROGATIVE ADVERBS.

где, *where*; јер, *why*.

## AFFIRMATIVE.

да, *yes*; заиста, *surely*.

## NEGATION.

не, *not*; никако, *in no way*.

## DOUBT.

ако, да, *if*; једа, *perhaps*; једва, *hardly*.

## PREPOSITIONS.

A few of the leading prepositions will be given here with the cases which they govern.

The following take the genitive:

без, <i>without,</i>	до, <i>up to,</i>
пут, <i>towards,</i>	мјесто, <i>in place of,</i>
ради, <i>for the sake of,</i>	усред, <i>in the midst.</i>

The following take the dative:

к, то, против, *against.*

The following take the accusative:

кроз, *through;* уз, *up.*

The following takes the locative alone:

при, *by the side of.*

The following take the genitive and instrumental:

с, са, су, *with.*

The following take the genitive and dative:

против, супрот, *against.*

The following take the accusative and instrumental in so far as they indicate movement or repose:

међ, међу, *among;* над, *on;* под, *under;* пред, *before.*

The following take the accusative and locative:

на, *on;* о, *concerning;* по, *after.*

The following takes the genitive, accusative and locative:

у, *in or at.*

The following takes the genitive, accusative and instrumental:

за, *behind or for,* as служи за предбројбу, *it is as good as a subscription.*

## CONJUNCTIONS.

## Copulative :

и, *and*; такођер, *in the same manner*; не само — него и, *not only — but*.

## Disjunctive:

или, или or буд — буд, *whether — or*.

## Adversative:

али, но, *but*; са свим тим, *for all that*; него, *than*, as боље је знати, него имати, *it is better to know than to possess*.

## Causative:

јер, јеро, *because that*; да, *in order that*; па, *and then*, as вукодлак, човјек, кој послѣје смрти устане и хода у сподоби вука па сиса људем крв, *vampire, a man who rises after death and goes in the likeness of a wolf and then sucks men's blood*.

## Interrogative:

ли, да ли, ја ли, *or is it?*

## INTERJECTIONS.

It will suffice here to give a few which are especially note-worthy, such as *jaox, alas*; *хопа цупа*, used to mark the step in the коло or national dance of Serbia, *путине* и *путине*, *nonsense*; *с пута*, *get out of the way*. The Serbian language is very rich in onomatopœia, and has a series of verbs formed from interjections, and natural cries, as in English, many of which are very expressive, thus *пвркutati*, *to warble* (as birds), *хржити*, *to neigh*, &c.

## PART III:—SYNTAX.

## THE NOUN.

The genitive case is used after:

a) the verb when it has a partitive sense, as дајте ми круха, *give me some bread*.

b) the verb when there is a negative in the sentence, as сребра и злата нема у мене (Acts III, 6), *silver and gold I have none*.

c) to express point of time, but the instrumental is more often used; thus у Оксфорду десетогa студна тисућу осам сто осамдесет и пет, *Oxford the tenth of November* (lit. cold month) 1885.

d) when the numerals два, три, четири and оба are undeclined, the noun after them is put in the genitive singular<sup>(1)</sup>, but from пет onwards it is in the genitive plural.

e) after some adjectives, especially denoting immunity from, the preposition од being also employed, as чист од љаге, *exempt from fault*; прост греха and од греха, *exempt from sin*.

f) with од the genitive is used after the comparative and superlative of adjectives, as је ли што шире од мора, је ли што слађе од меда, *is there any thing broader*

---

(1) The rule is the same in Russian. MIKLOSICH thinks that it is the remains of an old dual form, and a genitive singular only in appearance. This seems to be proved by the fact that if an adjective accompanies the noun it is put in what has been called the neuter plural, but in reality is a dual два велика хрasta, *two great oaks*.

*than the sea, is there any thing sweeter than honey.*—  
 Superlative: најсилнији од свих владара, *the most powerful of all monarchs*, sometimes него is used, as моја је башта лепша<sup>(1)</sup> него твоја, *my garden is prettier than thine*.

g) verbs implying to deliver, or separate from, frequently with the preposition од, as чувати кога чека or од чека, *to guard any one from anything*; ослободити кога чека, *to deliver, &c.*

h) implying memory, as споменути кога чека, *to remind any one of a thing*.

i) implying request or acquirement which take the genitive with y, as нитати што y кога, *to ask anything of a person*; добити што y кога, *to gain anything, &c.*

The Dative case is used after:

a) adjectives implying advantage, or experience and the contrary, as благ кому, *agreeable to any one*; неук чему, *ignorant of anything*; злочест кому, *mischievous to any one*.

b) after verbs implying to give or to do anything profitable to a person, as дати кому што, *to give anything to a person*; бранити кому што, *to defend a person against anything*; учити кога чему, *to teach a person anything*. As in Latin we get даровати кога чим and кому што.

c) to tell to any one, to rule, to threaten, to thank &c., as казати кому, *to narrate to any one*; господовати кому, *to rule any one*; приетити кому, *to threaten &c.*; захва-

---

<sup>(1)</sup> Irregular comparative of лјеп or леп, *beautiful*.

ЛИТИ КОМУ, *to thank*; ОБИКНУТИ ЧЕМУ, *to accustom oneself to anything*.

d) many impersonals and reflexives;—*e. g.* МОЛИТИ СЕ КОМУ, *to pray to any one.*<sup>(1)</sup>

The accusative is used after:

a) verbs, as the common case of expressing the object.

b) The accusative is used to mark extent or dimension, both of time and place and is sometimes used for point of time with the preposition *y*, as *y* пета<sup>к</sup>, *on Friday*.

The instrumental case is used:

a) as the regular case to express the agent or instrument, as

Они ће ми одмаздити  
Мојом главом вљашке главе

*They will make me atone*

*By means of my head for the heads of the Wallachs.*

IVAN MAŽURANIĆ.

Smrt Čengiće-age, line 12.

b) it is used after certain adjectives implying riches, content &c.;—*e. g.* БОГАТ ЧИМ, *rich in something*; ДОВОЉАН ЧИМ, *content with something*. So also ПЛОДАН, *fertile*; СЛАВАН, *celebrated*; ВЕЛИК, *great*, &c.

<sup>(1)</sup> For many other peculiar constructions of the verbs the reader must be recommended to use a good dictionary: the knowledge of them can only be acquired by practice. Unfortunately a Serbo-English dictionary is still a *desideratum*, and the student must betake himself to German aids.

c) There is also what has been appropriately called the *predicative* use of this case when it is employed after verbs of appointing, nominating &c., as Стефан постане зетом султана, *Stephen becomes the sultan's son-in-law*; изабрати кога краљем, *to elect any one king*; именовати тајником, *to name any one private secretary*.

d) It is also sometimes used to express point of time, as Сриједом и Суботом долази пошта, *the Post arrives Wednesday and Saturday*.

### THE VERB.

The syntax of the verb has already been partly explained. It only remains to add a few peculiarities.

In the imperative instead of the third person singular, the second is often used, as недај Бог, *may God forbid*.

Instead of the infinitive after a verb we frequently find the indicative used with the conjunction да;—e. g. ко има уши да чује, нека чује, *he who has ears to hear let him hear*. So also Acts I, 25 из кога испаде Јуда да иде на мјесто своје, *from which Judas tell that he might go into his own place*. We may compare with this tendency the condition of the Bulgarian and Modern Greek languages in which the infinitive has entirely disappeared.

As in other Slavonic languages, we have the neuter past participle passive used with a case, the accusative of the object, with which ΜΙΚΛΟΣΙΧ (IV, 365) very rightly compares such expressions as the Greek ἀσκητέον ἐστὶ τὴν ἀρετήν.

According to PARČIĆ and other writers of Serbian Grammar there is a supine in Serbian: this however is

denied by MIKLOSICH (see Vol. III, p. 225) who appears to regard it as identical with the infinitive.<sup>(1)</sup>

The difference between the gerunds and the participles, is that the former are indeclinable, but the latter are declined throughout like adjectives.

#### SERBIAN READING LESSON.

An extract is here given from the writings of J. SUBBOTIĆ<sup>(2)</sup>, with an interlinear translation which it is hoped may convey to the reader some idea of the Serb syntax.

Србске народне пјесме и њихов уплив у књижевни  
The Serbian national songs and their influence on written  
језик србаљах.  
language of the Serbians.

Издавна јошт живила су јуначка дјела отацах  
For a long time still have lived the heroic deeds of (their) fathers  
и праотацах у пјесмама, које у свом роду пара себи  
and grandfathers in songs which in their kind an equal to themselves  
траже. Јунаци косовске битке живили  
demand (in vain). The heroes of the Kosovo battle have lived  
су кроз те пјесме у спомену народа тако  
through these songs in (the) memory of the people as

---

(1) BERLIĆ says that in Serbian it is constantly confused with the infinitive, and is practically unrecognised (*Grammatik der illirischen Sprache* p. 179).

(2) I have thought it better to let this extract remain with its various dialectical peculiarities both in orthography and grammar. The student must be familiarised with all forms of the Serbo-Croatian language. The addition of -x to the genitive plural must be noticed, as Србаљах, отацах. It is now generally rejected and has therefore not been inserted among the forms of the substantives.

живахно, као да су свима лично познати и да су прије  
 freshly as if, they were to all personally known and before  
 неколико годинах поумирали.  
 some years (they) had died.

Па онај исти кој је пјесме о старима  
 — For this very (reason) he who (the) songs concerning the old ones  
 најбоље пјевао, опјевао је и јуначка дјела саврјеменаках  
 best sang, sang also the heroic deeds of contemporaries  
 својих, који су за крст частни и за домовину крв  
 his, who for the cross noble and for (their) country blood  
 проливали, живот изгубили. Ове пјесме прелазиле су од отаца на  
 shed life lost. These songs came from fathers to  
 синове и примале су свагда онај образ језика, кој је код  
 sons and took always that form of language, which among  
 живећег рода у обичају био; и тако су оне пјесме, које  
 living people in custom was; and so are those songs which  
 о најудаљенијем времену гласе, по језику сасвим  
 concerning most remote time speak in language altogether  
 равне са онима, које догађај нашег времена опјевају.  
 resembling those which an occurrence of our time sing.

Но значају србског народа сигурно се  
 Concerning the nature of the Serbian people clearly itself to  
 узети даје и по свједочбама грчких  
 apprehend (it) gives and according to the testimonies of the Greek  
 хисториках знамо, да је у вријеме краљевах и Царевах  
 historians we know, that in the time of the Kings and Emperors  
 србских доста пјесамах било, у којима је народ своје јунаке  
 Serb many of songs there was, in which the people its heroes  
 опјевао. Од оних је пјесамах изузимајући Лазарев круг, мало-  
 sang. From these songs, excepting the Lazarus-cycle, little  
 њих до нас одржано. Види се, да је катастрофа косово  
 of them to us is preserved. It is clear that the catastrophe of the  
 пољска на народ србски страшно утицање имала. Чини  
 field of Kosovo on the people Serb terrible influence had. It  
 се, као ди су старци и старе баке овим ударом потре-  
 seems that the old men and old women by that blow fright-  
 шени на све друго заборавили, и дјеци и унуцима  
 ened everything else forgot and to children and grandchildren  
 својима само о косовом пољу те о косовом пољу и његовим  
 their only of Kosovo field and of Kosovo field and its  
 јунацима говорили, и час бољу и несрјећу, час  
 heroes . spoke and at times the hurt and misfortune, at times

славу и величину тога дана казивали. Силом, великолепошћу,  
 the glory and grandeur of that day told. By force, grandeur,  
 важпошћу несрећом и посљедицом превазилази косовска  
 importance unhappiness and its consequences exceeds the Kosovo  
 битка све догађаје, који су прије ње на народ дјеловали.  
 battle all events, which before this on the people had acted.  
 Послје ужасне смрти најмилијивијег од свих Србских владатељах  
 After (the) terrible death of the dearest of all Serbian rulers  
 напје на србскѣ народ грозна бједа и невоља, плод  
 came on (the) Serbian people horrible poverty and slavery the fruit  
 унутрашњег раздора и турског господства. Бјесни освојни-  
 of interior disturbance and Turkish rule. The devilish con-  
 тељи разтјерају прије свега властелство, или га сваког права  
 querors destroyed before all the nobility, or their every right  
 лише, да тако кости из тјела народа извуку,  
 took away, just as if bones from the body of (the) people they took,  
 да се на њима држати неможе: бездушним глобљењем  
 so that on them support itself it could not. By heartless plundering  
 лише народ имања, да га тим  
 it deprives the people of (their) property, so that them thereby  
 мирнијим и поданијим учине; заузму му  
 humble and subject it should make; they took away from them  
 градове и већа мјеста, да га боље под  
 (their) towns and greater cities, so that them (the people) better under  
 уздом држати могу, и њега одтјерају у горе и долине.  
 the bridle keep they might and them drove to the mountain and valley.  
 Но тим му учине оно, што су најмање хтјели,  
 But by this to them they did that, which least of all they wished,  
 и што му се само најбоље учинити могло; тим су га  
 and which to them only best to do was possible, by this them  
 натјерали, да несмјешан остане. да се њима напроти  
 they compelled unmixed to remain, to make them against (them)  
 стави и да собствено тјело чини, пак да се позна са  
 stand and a peculiar body to form, so that they made them  
 гором и грмом, који ће му  
 acquainted with the mountain and the oak which could to them  
 посље непредобитни бедеми бити.  
 afterwards insuperable barriers be.

From this extract a fair idea may be formed of the construction of a sentence in the Serbian language. As it is in a highly synthetic state great variety is

allowed; the order on the whole is the natural one, and the Slavonic languages are free from the cumbrous and pedantic sentences of the German and other tongues. The verb is frequently, but not necessarily, put at the end of a period. The adjective and participle can be separated by many words from the substantives with which they agree, as may be seen in the passages taken from SUBBOTIĆ.

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